



Wisconsin Crop Progress & Condition



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Cooperating with Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

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Snow and Cold Halt Fieldwork

Harvest activities stalled this week as a major winter storm system plowed through the state. A band of heavy snow fell across northern Wisconsin early in the week, with sleet, freezing rain or rain falling in the south and along Lake Michigan. Frigid arctic air followed this storm, with daytime highs in the teens and twenties and lows falling below zero in parts of the north. After days of flurries, a second storm system dusted the entire state with another one to three inches of snow over the weekend. Reporters noted snow totals up to 24 inches for the week. Snow cover on unfrozen ground created treacherous or impassable field conditions in some areas. However, areas missed by heavy snow saw the ground freeze solid enough to support machinery, a welcome event where harvest has been delayed by muddy soils. Between deep snow and frozen ground, reporters commented that most remaining fall tillage will be prevented. With cold and snowy weather seemingly here to stay and grain moistures still running high, farmers were left with tough decisions to make about the remainder of this year's crop. Harvest activities forged ahead wherever standing crops were accessible. Manure spreading necessary to clear pits for winter was also going full force, though the operation was hampered by wet conditions in some areas.

There were 3.9 days suitable for fieldwork this week.

Across the reporting stations, average temperatures were 8 to 14 degrees below normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 28 to 39 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 15 to 26 degrees. Precipitation ranged from 0.02 inches in Eau Claire to 0.50 inches in Green Bay. If you are interested in further weather data, please reference the following sites:

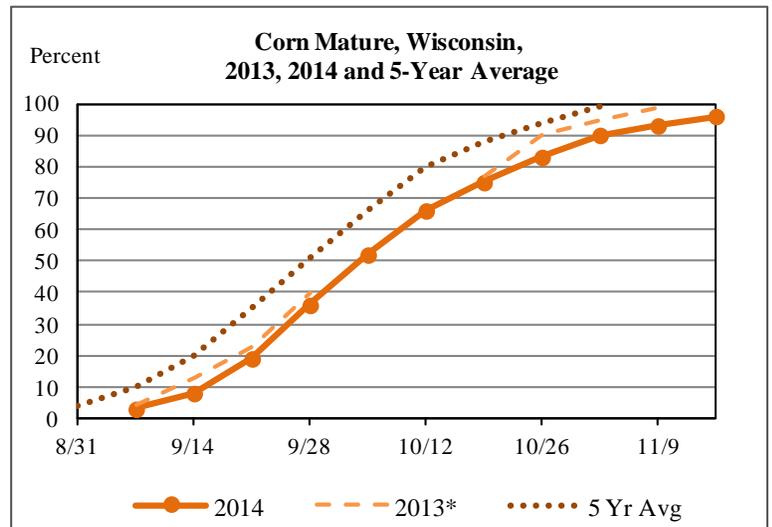
- <http://www.noaa.gov/>
- <http://www.aos.wisc.edu/~sco/>
- <http://www.cocorahs.org/>
- <http://www.weather.gov/>

As of November 16, ninety-six percent of **corn** was mature, two weeks behind the five year average. Corn for grain was 64 percent harvested with grain moisture at harvest averaging 22 percent.

Ninety-three percent of **soybeans** had been harvested.

Winter wheat was 96 percent planted and 84 percent emerged. Winter wheat condition was rated 66 percent good to excellent.

Fall tillage was 60 percent complete.



*Due to a lapse in federal funding in October 2013, the Crop Progress reports for the weeks ending October 6, 2013 and October 13, 2013 were cancelled. Therefore, previous year estimates for the corresponding weeks will not be available. Five-year average estimates will reflect the years 2009-2013 using published estimates for 2009-2012 and imputed estimates for 2013.

Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of November 16, 2014

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Winter Wheat	0	5	29	55	11

Wisconsin Crop Progress as of November 16, 2014

Crop and percent of acreage	District average									State average			
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	Percent									Percent			
Fall tillage	54	71	48	58	60	61	54	73	53	60	52	54	56
Corn mature	94	97	93	99	88	90	99	100	98	96	93	100	99
Corn harvested for grain	55	58	30	63	44	38	76	86	64	64	50	72	78
Soybeans harvested	96	81	70	99	89	84	99	99	97	93	90	92	96
Winter Wheat planted	99	99	100	99	99	92	99	100	96	96	94	n.a.	n.a.
Winter Wheat emerged	77	94	89	77	84	79	90	93	83	84	79	n.a.	n.a.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Conditions as of November 16, 2014

Item	District average									State average		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last Year
Days Suitable	Days									Days		
	1.6	2.0	3.0	1.7	4.2	4.5	5.1	6.1	5.0	3.9	5.3	4.2
	Percent									Percent		
Topsoil Moisture												
Very Short	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	4
Short	6	0	0	9	1	1	9	7	5	5	5	14
Adequate	76	75	45	80	82	70	88	91	93	81	81	66
Surplus	18	25	55	11	17	29	3	1	1	14	14	16
Subsoil Moisture												
Very Short	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	1	0	0	9
Short	4	5	8	9	5	0	8	9	11	6	6	27
Adequate	81	72	50	86	72	73	91	88	87	82	83	54
Surplus	15	23	42	5	22	27	1	1	1	12	11	10

Wisconsin Crop Progress

Selected Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

All comments are used in creating this report, but only a few are published below.

BURNETT-J.D.: Had 18 inches of snow last Monday.

POLK-A.M.: Early snow storm of 10-12 inches on November 10th halted harvest and fall tillage. Some farmers are attempting to harvest even with the snow.

SAWYER-K.S.: This past week's early winter storm caught a lot of farms off guard. Farmers had been enjoying near ideal fall harvest conditions and were making good progress on getting crops off the field. The storm left over 12 inches of snow across the entire county and will definitely slow the remaining harvest. Approximately 35% of the corn is still out in the field. Most of the soybeans were harvested prior to the snow. Fall spreading of manure will also be more challenging.

LINCOLN-K.S.: All fields are snow-covered, but the ground's not frozen.

ONEIDA-B.E.: Got 23 inches of snow. Temperatures well below average. Normally flood the cranberry beds during this period, but haven't yet due to the snowfall.

LANGLADE-A.K.: Season came to abrupt end with 8 to 12 inches of snow that looks like it intends to stay. Waiting to see if conditions will allow corn combining. Beans and manure application appears done.

EAU CLAIRE-D.S.: Too wet to harvest beans. Got 8 inches of snow last Sunday and Monday.

TREMPEALEAU-L.N.: Rain, ice, snow and frigid temperatures have halted progress on harvest. Many frustrated farmers with acres of corn left to harvest. Better than average yields made moving the corn from the field to the elevator or bins a big task. Moisture levels are requiring drying on everything which has lead to LONG lines and waits of up to 6 hours to dump corn at the elevator. Test weights have been running low also. Adding the low prices for corn to the mix equates to some doom and gloom.

WAUSHARA-K.W.: Early freeze up will cut short fall tillage operations.

WOOD-M.L.: Snow accumulation was 6 inches in the northern end of the county, 2-3 inches in the south. There are still quite a few acres of soybeans out in this snow. Freezing temperatures will benefit some with waterlogged fields that will need frost penetration to carry farm equipment.

DOOR-R.S.: Corn harvested for grain is still high in moisture.

SHEBOYGAN-M.B.: Corn harvest progress is delayed. Waiting for corn to dry down.

GRANT-R.R.: The ground is frozen now, and we have had some snow, so there will be no more fall tillage.

DANE-J.K.: Crop season is basically over for 2014. Lots of liquid manure still going on - trying to beat the frozen ground and work it in. Still a few fields of corn standing. Very little snow here. Some corn stalks being made yet. Ready for deer hunting.

KENOSHA-J.H.: Corn is staying high in moisture.

WALWORTH-N.W.: Some producers are wrapping up the harvest season. Fall tillage has come to a halt with the unseasonable cold snap. Corn yields being reported have been good.

Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on November 16, 2014

City	Temperature						Growing degree days (modified base 50) 1/		Precipitation				
	Avg. max.	Avg. min.	High max.	Low min.	Avg.	Avg. dep. from normal *	Mar. 1 to Nov. 15	Mar. 1 to Nov. 15 normal*	Last Week	Since Sep. 1	Sep. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	28	15	39	3	21	-14	2688	2594	0.02	8.42	+1.47	41.09	+10.88
Green Bay	32	23	42	14	28	-9	2457	2451	0.50	8.43	+2.00	29.15	+2.41
La Crosse	33	23	48	12	28	-10	3168	2946	0.26	6.49	-0.13	35.97	+6.00
Madison	37	23	57	10	30	-8	2940	2915	0.15	5.34	-1.09	33.15	+3.02
Milwaukee	39	26	56	15	33	-8	2607	n.a.	0.34	4.52	-2.54	29.81	-1.24

1/ Formula used: GDD = (daily maximum (86°) + daily minimum (50°))/2-50°; where 86° is used if the maximum exceeds 86° and 50° is used if the minimum falls below 50°. *Normal based on 1971-2000 data. Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>. n.a.=not available. T=trace

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